

**SYSTEMS, METHODS AND DEVICES FOR REMOVING
OBSTRUCTIONS FROM A BLOOD VESSEL**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for removing an obstruction from a blood vessel includes an
5 obstruction engaging element and an expandable capture element. The capture element
preferably has a flexible cover and an expandable support structure. The engaging element
engages the obstruction and moves the obstruction into the capture element. The capture
element protects the obstruction when the obstruction is moved into the catheter.